

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

Claims 1 and 5 are amended herein; claims 7-11 have been cancelled herein without prejudice; and claims 12-15 have been added herein.

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A load handling apparatus comprising:
 - a pivot rod having ends;
 - at least one elongate member having means for engaging and/or lifting a load; and
 - at least one second elongate member pivotally connected to said first-mentioned elongate member; and
 - actuating means in the form of at least one airbag assembly having an airbag and co-operating with said first and second elongate members to change the angular orientation of said first and second elongated members relative to each other upon inflation and deflation of the airbag, and characterized in that said at least one airbag assembly includes at least one connecting strap as part thereof, said connecting strap passing around said rod as part of the load handling apparatus to secure the airbag with the apparatus.
2. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, and including additional elongate members disposed so as to transmit the relative movement of said first and second members to the load, which is thereby manipulated as required.
3. (Original) An apparatus claimed in claim 1, in which the at least one first member is substantially twice the length of said at least one second member.

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4. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, in which the at least one first member and said at least one second member are of substantially equal length.
5. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, in which said at least one first and second elongate members[[,]] each comprise a pair of members, each member of each pair being disposed generally parallel to the other member of the same pair and the two pairs being connected together by means of [[a]] the pivot rod.
6. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, and including an actuating means comprising a hydraulic or pneumatic mechanism.
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Cancelled)
11. (Cancelled)
12. (New) An apparatus according to claim 1 characterized in that a first airbag and a second airbag are provided, each having a connecting strap for location around the pivot rod, said strap configured such that the first airbag has straps to connect towards the ends of the pivot rod and the second airbag straps connect to the pivot rod between the straps of the first airbag.
13. (New) An apparatus according to claim 1 characterized in that two airbags are provided, each having connecting straps which are castellated along the length of the pivot rod.
14. (New) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, in which the airbag is disposed adjacent the point of pivotal connection between said first and second elongate members and is

constructed such that inflation of the airbag will cause a greater degree of inflation in the distal regions of the airbag, furthest away from the pivotal connection and a much lesser degree of inflation in the proximal region closest to the pivotal connection and the said first and second elongate members pivot around the same rod to which the airbag is connected.

15. (New) An airbag for apparatus according to any preceding claim having a number of interconnecting compartments, inflation of the airbag is restrained at one edge or part thereof, characterized in that said airbag includes at said edge or part at least one connecting strap, said connecting strap provided to pass around the rod and secure the airbag thereto.